



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

PO Box 97, 190 Rogers Avenue, Madison, CT 06460

Bureau of Aquaculture



December 31, 2019

Town of Madison Health Department
Trent Joseph, Director of Health
8 Campus Drive
Madison, CT 06443

RE: Reclassification of shellfish growing areas in Madison, CT

Mr. Joseph,

The Department of Agriculture Bureau of Aquaculture is required to reevaluate shellfish growing area classifications in the State on an annual basis, in order to accurately reflect the appropriate designated use of the area and remain in compliance with the requirements of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP).

The following shellfish growing areas in Madison are being reclassified effective December 30, 2019:

- A significant portion of the Madison growing areas have been reclassified to Approved, and incorporated into the Madison Approved Area based upon the results of the 2019 sanitary survey and bacteriological water quality improvements that show that the area now meets the fecal coliform standard for an Approved shellfish growing area;
 - A portion of East Wharf Conditionally Approved Area B has been reclassified to Approved
 - Chipman Point has been reclassified from Restricted to Approved, and is now incorporated into the Madison Approved Area
 - Area A has been reclassified from Conditionally Approved to Approved, and is now incorporated into the Madison Approved Area
 - West Wharf area has been reclassified from Restricted to Approved and is now incorporated into the Madison Approved Area
- Middle Beach area has been reclassified from Restricted to Conditionally Approved Seasonal and is now incorporated into Conditionally Approved Seasonal Area C;
- Conditionally Approved Area D has been downgraded to Restricted. The bacteriological water quality at stations in Area D no longer meet the fecal coliform standard for an Approved shellfish growing area under the conditions when the area would be open for harvest. These stations will continue to be sampled and evaluated on an annual basis, and the classification may be revisited in the future.

For additional information on the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) requirements for classifying shellfish growing areas please see the NSSP Model Ordinance Chapter IV. Shellfish Growing Areas@.02 Microbiological Standards and @.03 Growing Area Classification.

<https://www.fda.gov/downloads/Food/GuidanceRegulation/FederalStateFoodPrograms/UCM505093.pdf>

These changes became effective December 30, 2019. A legal notice has been written which will be placed in the local newspaper announcing this change. A copy of the written description of the current classifications and all relevant maps are attached. Our GIS staff would be happy to assist the Town with the creation new maps for the recreational shellfishing areas reflecting these changes.

Copies of the new classification descriptions for the shellfish growing areas in Madison are being provided to the United States Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the Madison Shellfish Commission and the Town Clerk of Madison.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

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